

Claims

- [c1] A method of controlling an automotive vehicle comprising:
 - determining a forward direction of the vehicle and generating a forward direction signal;
 - determining a reverse direction of the vehicle and generating a reverse direction signal;
 - applying brake-steer in response to the forward direction signal as a function of a first threshold; and
 - applying brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal as a function of a second threshold different than the first threshold.
- [c2] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a reverse direction signal comprises generating a reverse direction signal from a shift lever.
- [c3] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a reverse direction signal comprises generating a reverse direction signal from a push button.
- [c4] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a reverse direction signal comprises generating a reverse direction signal from a transmission controller.

- [c5] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a reverse direction signal comprises generating a reverse direction signal from a wheel speed sensor.
- [c6] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein applying brake-steer in response to the forward direction signal comprises applying at least one brake at a first wheel to reduce a vehicle turning radius.
- [c7] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein applying brake-steer in response to the forward direction signal comprises applying an increased drive torque to a second wheel relative to a first wheel.
- [c8] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein applying brake-steer in response to the forward direction signal comprises increasing normal load on at least one wheel.
- [c9] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a forward direction signal comprises generating a forward direction signal from a shift lever.
- [c10] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a forward direction signal comprises generating a forward direction signal from a push button.
- [c11] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a forward direction signal comprises generating a forward di-

rection signal from a transmission controller.

- [c12] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein generating a forward direction signal comprises generating a forward direction signal from a wheel speed sensor.
- [c13] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein applying brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal comprises applying at least one brake at a first wheel to reduce a vehicle turning radius.
- [c14] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein applying brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal comprises applying an increased drive torque to a second wheel relative to a first wheel.
- [c15] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein applying brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal comprises increasing normal load on at least one wheel.
- [c16] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the second threshold is less than the first threshold.
- [c17] A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the second threshold is greater than the first threshold.
- [c18] A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising determining a steering wheel angle and wherein applying brake-steer comprises applying brake-steer in response

to the reverse direction signal and steering wheel angle.

- [c19] A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising determining a yaw rate and wherein applying brake-steer comprises applying brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and said yaw rate.
- [c20] A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising determining a steering wheel torque and wherein applying brake-steer comprises applying brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and steering wheel torque.
- [c21] A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising determining a steering wheel angle and a vehicle velocity and wherein applying brake-steer comprises applying brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and steering wheel angle and vehicle velocity.
- [c22] A vehicle comprising:
 - means to determine a forward direction and generate a forward direction signal;
 - means to determine a reverse direction and generate a reverse direction signal; and
 - a controller coupled to the shift lever, said controller programmed to apply brake-steer in response to the forward direction signal as a function of the first threshold and apply brake-steer in response to the reverse di-

rection signal as a function of the second threshold different than the first threshold.

- [c23] A system as recited in claim 22 wherein said controller is programmed to brake-steer by applying a first brake and a second brake to reduce the turning radius of the vehicle.
- [c24] A system as recited in claim 22 wherein said controller is programmed to brake-steer by applying at least one brake at a first wheel to reduce a vehicle turning radius.
- [c25] A system as recited in claim 22 wherein said controller is programmed to brake-steer by applying an increased drive torque to a second wheel relative to the first wheel.
- [c26] A control system as recited in claim 22 further comprising a steering wheel angle sensor generating a steering wheel angle signal, said controller programmed to apply brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and the steering wheel angle signal.
- [c27] A control system as recited in claim 22 further comprising a yaw rate sensor generating a yaw rate signal, said controller programmed to apply brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and yaw rate signal.
- [c28] A control system as recited in claim 22 further comprising

ing a steering wheel torque sensor generating a steering torque signal, said controller programmed to apply brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and steering torque signal.

- [c29] A control system as recited in claim 22 further comprising a steering wheel angle sensor generating a steering wheel angle signal and a vehicle velocity sensor generating a vehicle velocity signal, said controller programmed to apply brake-steer in response to the reverse direction signal and steering wheel angle and vehicle velocity signal.
- [c30] A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a forward direction and generate a forward direction signal comprises a shift lever.
- [c31] A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a forward direction and generate a forward direction signal comprises a push button.
- [c32] A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a forward direction and generate a forward direction signal comprises a transmission controller.
- [c33] A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a forward direction and generate a forward direction signal comprises a wheel speed sensor.

- [c34] A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a reverse direction and generate a reverse direction signal comprises a shift lever.
- [c35] A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a reverse direction and generate a reverse direction signal comprises a push button.
- [c36] A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a reverse direction and generate a reverse direction signal comprises a transmission controller.
- [c37] A vehicle as recited in claim 22 wherein means to determine a reverse direction and generate a reverse direction signal comprises a wheel speed sensor.